

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEA-01 L-03 ERDA-05

/067 R

DRAFTED BY EB/CSB/OSB;JRGRAHAME:CJR
APPROVED BY EB/CSB/OSB - ADBRAMANTE
USDA - ADAHALT (DRAFT)
OPIC - AKRAMISH (SUBS)
AID/TA - JMALCOLM (SUBS)
NEA/INS - RMORLEY
COMMERCE - TGILLETTE (INFO)

----- 127246

R 041459Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USINJC, EAGR, EIND, US, IN

SUBJECT: JOINT COMMISSION: MEETING OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS
WORKING GROUP

REF: (A) STATE 227050, (B) NEW DELHI 12945

1. THE AGRICULTURAL INPUTS WORKING GROUP OF THE ECONOMIC
AND COMMERCIAL SUBCOMMISSION MET ON OCTOBER 1 AT THE
USDA. J. DAWSON AHALT, STAFF ECONOMIST TO THE DIRECTOR
OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND P.J. FERNANDES, SECRETARY,
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS, GOI MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
AND CHEMICALS, CO-CHAired MEETING.

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2. THE EIGHT HOUR SESSION, WHICH INCLUDED A WORKING LUNCH HOSTED BY FERNANDES, WAS AN UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS. DISCUSSIONS WERE CORDIAL, PROFESSIONAL, FRANK, AND PRAGMATIC. FERNANDES SET THE TONE OF THE MEETING BY DEFINING THE PURPOSE OF THE WORKING GROUP AS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONCRETE PROGRAMS OF COLLABORATION RATHER THAN THE DRAFTING OF AN INNOCUOUS PARAGRAPH OF AN AGREED MINUTE. AT DAY'S END HE EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT PRACTICAL MEASURES OF COLLABORATION HAD BEEN AGREED UPON IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS GOAL. THE SUCCESS AND MEANINGFULNESS OF THE MEETING CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO

THE ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORT AND PRAGMATIC AND EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP PROVIDED BY USDA AS WELL AS TO THE COOPERATION OF CONCERNED OFFICES IN COMMERCE, STATE, AID, AND OPIC, ALL ACTING ON VERY SHORT NOTICE. THE INDIAN INITIATIVE AND DETERMINATION TO BUILD UPON THE CONTACTS AND SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS OF THE FIRST WORKING GROUP MEETING, WERE ALSO MAJOR FACTOR IN MEETING'S SUCCESS.

3. THE 13 AMERICAN AND 9 INDIAN PARTICIPANTS (V. KRISHNAMURTHY, CHAIRMAN, BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS REPLACED ANNA GEORGE OF THE COMMERCE MINISTRY, WHO DID NOT ARRIVE IN TIME FOR THE MEETING) EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE AGENDA ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE INDIANS LAST WEEK. THE GROUP DISCUSSED THE WORLD FERTILIZER PRICE AND SUPPLY SITUATION, AGREED THAT THE SUPPLY SITUATION HAD EASED AND THAT PRICES WERE DECLINING AND NOTED THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT U.S. EXPORT PRICES WOULD EXCEED DOMESTIC PRICES. THIS OBVIATED NECESSITY FOR DISCUSSION OF INDIAN DESIRE FOR LONGTERM PRICING ARRANGEMENTS. INDIANS DID NOT RAISE ISSUE OF REVIVING USAID FERTILIZER IMPORT LOANS, NOTED ON PAGE 11 OF GOI DRAFT AGENDA.

4. THE GROUP MADE THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL SUBCOMMISSION:

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(A) THAT THE TWO SIDES EXCHANGE DATA CONCERNING THEIR TECHNIQUES FOR FORECASTING FERTILIZER DEMAND, SUPPLY, AND PRICES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THESE TECHNIQUES;

(B) THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS EXCHANGE PUBLISHED DATA ON FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE SUPPLY, DEMAND, AND PRICE TRENDS AND EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF EXCHANGING UNPUBLISHED DATA ON THIS SUBJECT;

(C) THAT, IN VIEW OF NEW CAPACITY IN THE U.S. FOR THE PRODUCTION OF PHOSPHATIC FERTILIZERS, THE GOI SHOULD CONTACT NEW U.S. PRODUCERS IN GENERAL, AND PHOSCHEM, A CONSORTIUM OF EXPORTERS, IN PARTICULAR;

(D) THAT THE TWO SIDES EXAMINE NEW PESTICIDES DEVELOPMENTS IN THE U.S. OF RELEVANCE TO INDIAN NEEDS, AND DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES OF U.S. PRODUCERS INVESTING IN BULK PESTICIDE PRODUCTION IN INDIA;

(E) THAT THE INDIAN SIDE EXPLORE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FERTILIZER DEVELOPMENT CENTER (IFDC) AND TVA POSSIBILI-

TIES FOR RESEARCH ON FERTILIZERS. THE GROUP IDENTIFIED SEVERAL SUITABLE PROJECTS;

(F) THAT THE IFDC MAKE EFFORTS TO LOCATE IN THE U.S. SUITABLE OPERATING LEVEL TEAMS TO WORK IN INDIAN FERTILIZER PLANTS IN SPECIFIC AREAS, IDENTIFIED BY THE INDIANS, FOR SPECIFIED PERIODS;

(G) THAT IFDC/AID AND CONCERNED GOI AGENCIES EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR COLLABORATION IN FERTILIZER USAGE RESEARCH IN THIRD COUNTRIES WITH TROPICAL AND SUB-TROPICAL CONDITIONS;

(H) THAT IFDC AND INDIAN AGENCIES EVOLVE PROJECTS CONCERNING IMPROVED FERTILIZER USAGE. THE GROUP SPECIFIED AREAS FOR THESE PROJECTS;

(I) THAT A NUMBER OF RESEARCH PROJECTS DISCUSSED BY THE GROUP ARE SUITABLE FOR FUNDING FROM U.S.-OWNED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RUPEES IN INDIA;

(J) THAT THE USDA AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON COMPOSTING AND USAGE OF ORGANIC MANURES, INCLUDING SEWAGE, WITH CONCERNED INDIAN AGENCIES;

(K) THAT AN INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON FERTILIZER USAGE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BE HELD IN INDIA IN EARLY 1977 UNDER THE JOINT SPONSORSHIP OF THE IFDC/TVA AND THE FERTILIZER ASSOCIATION OF INDIA, WITH THE SUPPORT OF USDA, GOI AGRICULTURE AND PETROLEUM MINISTRIES AND CONCERNED INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES;

(L) THAT THE U.S. SIDE EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF OPIC

FINDING MEANS TO ASSIST INDIA IN PROVIDING DETAILED INFORMATION ON INDIAN FERTILIZER TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING SKILLS AND PRODUCTION OF EQUIPMENT. OPIC WOULD THEREAFTER DRAW THE ATTENTION OF U.S. FIRMS TO THE BENEFITS TO THEM OF COLLABORATING WITH THESE INDIAN PRODUCERS IN PROJECTS IN THIRD COUNTRIES;

(M) THAT, IN ORDER TO ENSURE A CONTINUOUS DIALOGUE, THE WORKING GROUP SHOULD MEET AGAIN DURING THE NEXT THREE TO FOUR MONTHS IN NEW DELHI;

(N) THAT THE TWO SIDES OF THE WORKING GROUP REMAIN IN TOUCH THROUGH THEIR CONTACT POINTS -- DEPT. OF STATE AND INDIAN EMBASSY, WASHINGTON.

5. DEPT. WILL POUCH JOINT AGREED "SUMMARY RECORD" OF MEETING AND LIST OF PARTICIPANTS TO EMBASSY (LANDE) NEXT WEEK.

6. BEGIN FYI: OPIC INSURANCE OFFICER RAUENDRA GUPTA, WHO ATTENDED MEETING, WILL BE IN INDIA ON OPIC BUSINESS

OCT. 9-21. V. KRISHNOSWAMY OF FINANCE MINISTRY WANTS TO PUT GUPTA IN TOUCH WITH APPROPRIATE GOI OFFICIALS FOR DISCUSSIONS OF OPIC PROPOSAL NOTED PARAGRAPH 4L ABOVE. GUPTA WILL TELEPHONE LANDE OCT. 9.
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7. WE HAVE ARRANGED FOR FERNANDES TO MEET SENIOR OFFICIALS AT FDA ON OCT. 3 FOR DISCUSSIONS OF DRUG QUALITY AND PRICE MATTERS. END FYI. KISSINGER

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